



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chair Michelle Steel

3rd District – Orange County

Cynthia Bridges
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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Food Truck Sales Tax Could be Simplified by BOE Action Board of Equalization to Also Consider Sponsorship of Several Proposed Laws

Sacramento – The California State Board of Equalization (BOE) will vote on adopting a policy to presume taxable sales of food from mobile food trucks include sales tax in the listed price during its monthly meeting on March 25, 2014, at the California Public Utilities Commission Auditorium, 505 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco. Currently, unless mobile food truck operators post signs indicating the sales tax is included in the list price of taxable food items, they are required to remit the tax on the listed price to the state.

If the amendment to the regulation is adopted by the Board, it will take effect on July 1, 2014.

BOE Vice Chair Michelle Steel said, “This regulatory change will help make it easier for mobile food truck owners to comply with California’s complex tax laws.”

During this meeting, the Board will also consider positions on tax and agency-related bills pending in the state legislature. [Assembly Bill 777](#) would exempt certain space flight property and components from property taxes levied by county assessors for the next 10 years. [Assembly Bill 1656](#) states legislative intent to authorize the Department of General Services, with BOE’s consent, to enter into agreements to facilitate consolidation and relocation of staff from its troubled headquarters building at 450 N Street in Sacramento.

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California’s elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel’s decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects \$56 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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